

APPLICATION
AND
TESTIMONIALS

IN FAVOUR OF

J. NORMAN COLLIE, Ph.D., F.R.S.E., F.C.S.,
etc.,

Assistant Professor of Chemistry at University College, London,

CANDIDATE

FOR THE

Chair of Chemistry and Metallurgy,

IN THE

MASON COLLEGE, BIRMINGHAM.

To the Council of the Mason College, Birmingham.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to offer myself as a Candidate for the Chair of Chemistry and Metallurgy at the Mason College, Birmingham.

I was educated during the years 1873-1875 at Charterhouse School, and from 1875-1877 at Clifton College. On leaving Clifton College I continued my studies at University College, Bristol, and was chiefly engaged with the Science of Chemistry, Professor E. A. Letts being the Professor at that time. During my second year there I was awarded the Scholarship for Chemistry, which I held for one year. In the year 1879 I assisted Professor Letts in the preparation of various Gilchrist Lectures, which were from time to time delivered in the neighbouring towns, and also in the practical classes which he held at Stroud.

At the close of 1879 Professor Letts being appointed to the Chair of Chemistry in the Queen's College, Belfast, he asked me to accompany him as his Assistant. From 1879 till 1882 I remained at Belfast helping with the practical classes and holding tutorial classes. During this time I also worked with Professor Letts at original work.

I then went to Germany in order that I might study under Professor Wislicenus at Würzburg. After a year's study I took the degree of Ph. D., "*Magna cum laude*," and then returned to England.

I next acted as lecturer on Chemistry at the Ladies' College, Cheltenham.

In 1887 at the request of Professor Ramsay I became one of his assistants at University College, London. Since then I have had ample experience of every kind of Chemical teaching. I have had to lecture on Elementary and Advanced Chemistry, and to personally superintend practical classes, and also the Laboratory. I need not enumerate in detail the various courses of lectures I have given as they are very clearly set forth in the testimonial which Professor Ramsay has kindly given me.

I have for the last four years held the position of Assistant-Professor, and also have served on the Council of the Chemical Society for an equal number of years.

I am thirty-four years of age.

The list of papers on Chemical subjects which I have published will be found on another page.

I am well aware that much responsibility will rest on anyone succeeding to the Chair recently vacated by Professor W. A. Tilden; but should you appoint me, no effort will be wanting on my part to maintain the reputation of Mason College as a Chemical School.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

J. NORMAN COLLIE.

LIST OF PAPERS ON CHEMICAL SUBJECTS.

1878.

1. **On the Celestine and Baryto-Celestine of Clifton.** *Proceedings of the Bristol Naturalist's Society.*

1881.

2. **On the Salts of Tetrabenzylphosphonium.** *Proceedings, Royal Society of Edinburgh.* (Conjointly with Prof. E. A. Letts).

1882.

3. **On the action of Sodium Phosphide on Haloid Ethers, and on the Salts of Tetrabenzylphosphonium.** *Transactions, Royal Society of Edinburgh.* (Conjointly with Prof. E. A. Letts).

1885.

4. **Ueber die Einwirkung des Ammoniaks auf Acetessigester.** *Annalen der Chemie.* Vol. 266.

1886.

5. **On the Salts of Tetraethylphosphonium and their decomposition by heat.** *Philosophical Magazine.* (Conjointly with Prof. E. A. Letts).
6. **On a new method for the preparation of Tin Tetrethyl.** *Philosophical Magazine.* (Conjointly with Prof. E. A. Letts).

1887.

7. **Ueber einige Condensations Producte des Amido-acetessigesters.** *Berichte der deutsch Chem Gesellschaft.*
8. **On the action of heat on the Salts of Triethyl-benzyl-phosphonium.** *Philosophical Magazine.*

1888.

9. **On the action of heat on Tetramethylphosphonium Salts.** *Transactions of the Chemical Society.*
10. **On a new method for preparing mixed Tertiary Phosphinez.** *Transactions of the Chemical Society.*
11. **On the action of heat on Tetramethylammonium Salts.** *Transactions of the Chemical Society.* (Conjointly with A. Lawson).

1889.

- 12. **On Leadhills Minerals.** *Transactions of the Chemical Society.*
- 13. **On Methyl Fluoride.** *Transactions of the Chemical Society.*
- 14. **On some compounds of Tribenzylphosphine oxide.** *Transactions of the Chemical Society.*

1890.

- 15. **On the action of heat on the Chlorides and Hydroxides of mixed quarternary Ammonium Compounds.** *Transactions of the Chemical Society.* (Conjointly with S. B. Schryver).

1891.

- 16. **On the action of heat on Ethyl. β . Amido-crotonate.** *Transactions of the Chemical Society.*
- 17. **On the constitution of Dehydracetic Acid.** *Transactions of the Chemical Society.*
- 18. **On the Lactone of Triacetic Acid.** *Transactions of the Chemical Society.*
- 19. **On some reactions of Dehydracetic Acid.** *Transactions of the Chemical Society.*

1892.

- 20. **Ueber die Constitution des Terpenes und Camphors.** *Berichte der deutsch Chem Gesellschaft.*
- 21. **On the Production of Pyridine Derivatives from the lactone of Triacetic Acid.** *Transactions of the Chemical Society.* (Conjointly with W. S. Myers).

1893.

- 22. **The Fluorescein of Camphoric Anhydride.** *Transactions of the Chemical Society.*
- 23. **The Production of Naphthalene Derivatives from Dehydracetic Acid.** *Transactions of the Chemical Society.*
- 24. **The Formation of Orcinol and other Condensation products from Dehydracetic Acid.** *Transactions of the Chemical Society.* (Conjointly with W. S. Myers).

1894.

- 25. **On the Salts of Dehydracetic Acid.** *Transactions of the Chemical Society.* (Conjointly with H. R. le Sueur).
- 26. **A new method for preparing Carbon-tetra-bromide.** *Transactions of the Chemical Society.*

From Students in the Chemical Department of University College, London.

We, the undersigned, Students of Chemistry at University College, London, beg to testify to Dr. NORMAN COLLIE's excellent capabilities both as a Teacher and Lecturer. We have always found his method most satisfactory, and he has taken great personal interest in our work. We are very glad of this opportunity to acknowledge our indebtedness to him.

EDWARD C. CYRIL BALY, A.I.C.

N. EUMORFOPOULOS.

E. ASTON, B.Sc.

A. SEDGWICK.

R. MARSHALL.

P. WILLIAMS.

W. GATHORNE YOUNG.

D. T. MATTHEWS.

F. COLLINGRIDGE.

C. STIEVENARD.

L. ROSENFELD.

S. GODFREY HALL.

ERNEST H. FRY.

ALEC. B. MITCHELL.

HAY W. P. MATTHEY.

M. ZIA.

ROBERT D. LITTLEFIELD.

J. L. GARLE.

CAMPBELL DYKES.

M. F. ANDERSON.

A. W. CARR.

L. SUTTON.

J. WHITFIELD.

H. E. GARDNER.

H. H. FRANCIS HYNDMAN.

DOROTHY MARSHALL, B.Sc.

LUCY HALL.

CHARLES BOLTON.

H. STANLEY JEVONS.

ALEX. M. KELLAS, B.Sc.

M. HEATON.

B. N. DAS, M.A.

T. FRANCIS RUTTER, B.Sc.

From JOHN ERIC ERICHSEN, Esq., LL.D., F.R.S.; *President of University
College, London; etc.*

I have much pleasure in stating that Dr. J. N. COLLIE has discharged the duties of Assistant Professor of Chemistry to the entire satisfaction of the authorities of this College, and to the great advantage of the Institution, with which he has been connected since 1887.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE,

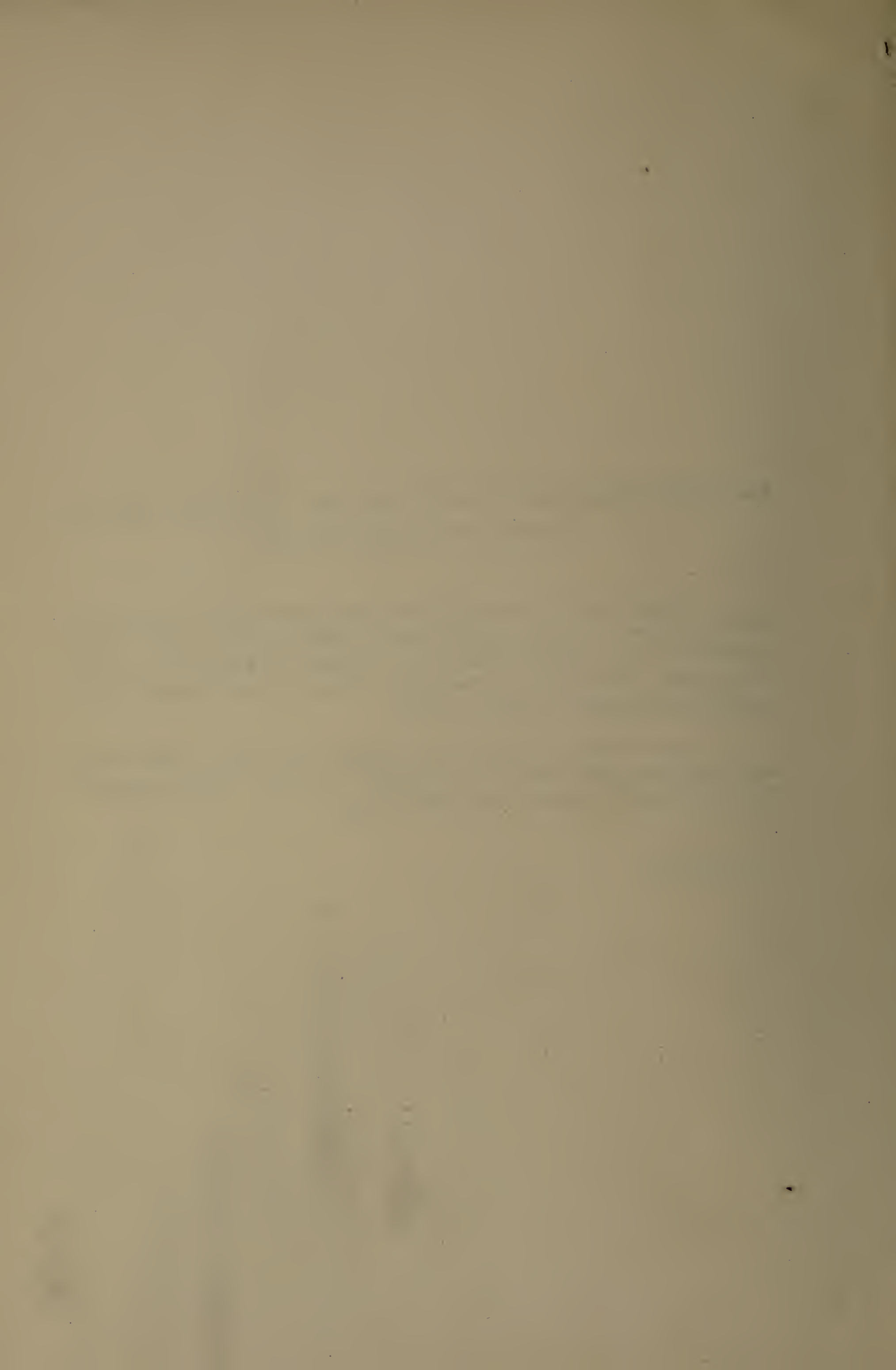
May 16th, 1894.

From ALEXANDER CRUM BROWN, Esq., M.D., D.Sc., F.R.S., *Professor of*
Chemistry in the University of Edinburgh.

I have known Dr. J. NORMAN COLLIE during the whole of his scientific life, and have watched his progress and followed his work with great interest. His investigations are most original in their direction and style, and are of great importance as not only contributing to our knowledge of facts, but also throwing light on fundamental principles of organic chemistry.

His knowledge is extensive and accurate, his views are clear and his mode of expressing them distinct and intelligible. I can very cordially recommend him for the Chair of Chemistry in the Mason College.

7th May, 1894.



*From E. A. LETTS, Esq., F.R.S.E., D.Sc., Ph.D., etc.; Professor of Chemistry,
Queen's College, Belfast.*

I wish to express a very high opinion of the qualifications of Dr. NORMAN COLLIE for the vacant Chair of Chemistry in the Mason College, Birmingham.

Dr. COLLIE was associated with me for many years, first as pupil then as assistant. As a student, my attention was drawn to him at once by his aptitude for Chemistry; his progress was remarkably rapid, and while still a junior, he published a paper on a Chemical subject. As my assistant, I found him zealous and efficient as a teacher, and a most enthusiastic worker at research. Several papers were published in our joint names in the Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and the Philosophical Magazine.

I was sorry to part with Dr. COLLIE, but very glad when I heard that he had been appointed Lecturer at University College, as I knew that with Dr. Ramsay as his chief he had every opportunity and incitement to sound chemical work.

Since then I have had very few opportunities of following his career, but I have read several reseaches he has published with great interest, and I believe that both from his early training as a Chemist, and his long experience as a Teacher, he is in every way qualified for the post he seeks to obtain, and is a very strong candidate.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, BELFAST,

May, 1894.

*From Dr. JOHANNES WISLICENUS, Professor of Chemistry, and Director of the
Chemical Laboratories in the University of Leipzig. (Given on a former occasion).*

[TRANSLATION].

Dr. J. NORMAN COLLIE informs me of his intention to become a candidate for the Chair of Chemistry in the University College, Bristol. He spent several sessions in the laboratory of the University of Würzburg under my direction, in the performance of chemical research, and was awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, with the highest honours, on presentation of his thesis.

I have much pleasure in recommending Dr. COLLIE in the warmest manner for the position he seeks, as an excellent and thoroughly cultured chemist, who, I am sure, also possesses all the necessary qualifications for teaching.

LEIPZIG,

June 24th, 1887.

From W. RAMSAY, Esq., Ph.D., F.R.S., &c., Professor of Chemistry at University College, London; Vice-President of the Chemical Society, &c.

DR. J. NORMAN COLLIE has been my Assistant here since 1887. During that time he has given :—

(1) Courses of lectures, annually, to junior students, engineers and those preparing for the matriculation examination of the University of London.

(2) Courses of lectures to Medical students preparing for the 1st M.B. examination in organic chemistry.

(3) Courses of lectures to senior students (mostly graduates) on recent advances in organic chemistry.

(4) He has conducted practical classes in qualitative analysis.

(5) He has also conducted practical classes in organic analysis and preparations, suitable for students preparing for 1st M.B. examination in London University.

(6) He has borne a large share in laboratory teaching.

(7) He has had sole charge of students engaged in research in organic chemistry, and has published numerous papers in conjunction with them in the Transactions of the Chemical Society, the Transactions of the Edinburgh Royal Society (of which he is a Fellow) and elsewhere.

The Council of the College, recognising the great services which he has rendered have given him the title of Assistant-Professor, a title held by only a few of the numerous demonstrators on the staff, and conferred only after a searching enquiry into the claims of the Candidate—an enquiry conducted with practically the same formalities as the election to a Chair.

DR. COLLIE is an excellent teacher, and an attractive lecturer; he keeps perfect order in his classes, and that for the best of reasons, because he interests his audience; and for the same reason he is a favourite with all the laboratory students. He is painstaking and accurate, and perfectly to be trusted in his business-like qualities and punctuality. Moreover, he has a quite unusual power of work, no doubt partly due to his excellent health and vigour.

There is no need for me to express any opinion regarding Dr. COLLIE's chemical qualifications; his name is known in all European laboratories as a worker of the first order. The only point which I should perhaps not omit to mention is that inasmuch as his labours have been for the most part in the domain of organic chemistry, it might be supposed that he is unacquainted with the other branches of the subject. This, however, is not the case. He has shown his acquaintance with mineralogy by his publication in that branch; and inasmuch as he has worked his way up as lecture-assistant (to Professor LETTS) and as lecturer in the Ladies' College

at Cheltenham, he is at home in every corner of his subject. There are few inorganic compounds of which he has not a specimen in his collection, prepared by himself; and if his labours have not been in inorganic chemistry, it is merely because the state of our science demands specialisation if a worker wishes to advance the knowledge of his subject.

To these qualifications, I must add the not less essential one, that Dr. COLLIE is a courteous gentleman, endowed with a more than usual share of judgment and common sense. He is also in no way an exclusive specialist, but interests himself in many other subjects, particularly in certain branches of ancient literature.

Although I am aware that the Council will have before them the names of many other gentlemen whom I count as personal friends, yet I venture to express the opinion that few, if any, can rival Dr. COLLIE in having had experience of precisely the work, scientific as well as medical, required of a Professor in the Mason College. He has, as already mentioned, prepared students for the examination of the Conjoint Board, and for those of the University of London, both in Medicine and in Science, and is perfectly familiar with their requirements. Moreover, he is not merely able to manage a laboratory, but is also endowed with the rare gift of rousing enthusiasm in his students, and of inciting them to carry out researches for themselves.

While I should deeply regret severing a connection of so long standing, and of so pleasant a nature, I am convinced that should the Council of Mason College elect Dr. COLLIE to the vacant Chair, they will secure the services of a man whom they can thoroughly trust as a teacher and as an administrator, and one who will greatly add to the reputation of the College.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE,
May 14th, 1894.

From Professor A. HALLER, Director of the Institute of Chemistry in the Faculty of Sciences, Nancy; Corresponding Member of the Academy of Sciences, and of the National Academy of Medicine, Paris, etc., etc.

Je soussigné, A. Haller, Directeur de l'Institut chimique de la Faculté des Sciences, et de l'Académie nationale de médecine de Paris, connais et ai en très haute estime les recherches et travaux de M. NORMAN COLLIE. Par la variété des sujets traités, sur l'éther acetoacétique, l'acide déhydracétique, l'éther β amidocrotonique, les bases phosphoniums et ammoniums mixtes, la série camphorique, quelques minéraux de Leadhills, etc., etc. M. NORMAN COLLIE s'est révélé aussi habile Chimiste que savant profond. Je le considère en conséquence comme un Chimiste de très grande valeur et de très grand avenir.

A. HALLER.

May 17, 1894.

